

REMARKS

In the outstanding Office Action, the Examiner contends that the application contains six patentably distinct species, namely (1) Figure 2; (2) Figure 3; (3) Figure 4; (4) Figures 5, 5a; (5) Figure 6; and (6) Figure 7.

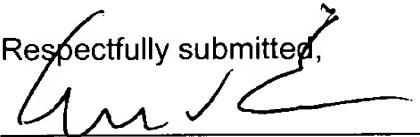
Applicants respectfully elect, with traverse, Species 2, namely, Figure 3, for further prosecution on the merits. Applicants reserve the right to prosecute the remaining species (and associated claims) in a divisional application(s).

Applicants respectfully believe that claims 1-3, 7-10, 13-27, 32-50 are readable on the elected Species 2 (Fig. 3). Accordingly, prosecution of these claims is respectfully requested.

Each and every point in the Office Action dated September 26, 2002 has been addressed on the basis of the above remarks.

Should the Examiner believe that direct contact with Applicants' attorney would advance prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the number given below.

Respectfully submitted,


EDWARD J. ELLIS
Reg. No. 40,389
Attorney for Applicants

DARBY & DARBY, P.C.
805 Third Avenue
New York, N.Y. 10022
Phone (212) 527-7700